

# Community Renewal Team Job Fair To Be Held February 25

The Community Renewal Team (CRT) will host a job fair for positions with the non-profit agency on Tuesday, February 25 from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm at 555 Windsor St., Hartford. CRT offers careers in several dif-

ferent areas, including: clinical services, early care and education, facilities, finance, administration, residential aides, nutrition and food service, case management and program management. Sign-on bonuses are available for

some positions. Ability to speak, read and write Spanish is a plus. On-the-spot interviews will be available for qualified applicants at the job fair, please bring your resume.

For a listing of current CRT employment

opportunities, go to: [tinyurl.com/rut3pza](https://tinyurl.com/rut3pza).

Founded in 1963, CRT is one of the state's largest non-profit agencies. In 2018, CRT served more than 35,000 families, and over 86,000 individuals.

# The Hartford News

February 13 – 19, 2020



## NEWS BRIEFS

### Tonight's MARG Monthly Meeting Canceled

The Maple Avenue Revitalization Group (MARG) has canceled its monthly meeting, which was scheduled for tonight, February 13, due to the threat of inclement weather. The group's next meeting will be held at 6 pm on Thursday, March 12, in the lower level of St. Augustine Church, 10 Campfield Avenue, Hartford. For more information, please call MARG President Hyacinth Yennie at 860-296-5543.

### Discussion on Hartford Barber Shop Culture TONIGHT at Library

A discussion of "Barbershops in Hartford: History and Evolution" will be held on Thursday, February 13, from 5:30 - 7:30 pm in the Hartford History Center of Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford. The History Center is currently displaying a collection of barber shop photos, materials, and memorabilia collected by longtime Hartford community member Willie Mann. The event is free and open to the public.

### Free Lunchtime Music Series Starts Downtown Feb. 14

"The Winter Blues," a series of free lunchtime shows, will start next Friday, February 14, at 12 noon. The concerts will continue every Friday through March 2 inside the City Place 1 lobby, 185 Asylum Street, Downtown Hartford.

### Yard Goats National Anthem Auditions

The Hartford Yard Goats Baseball Club, the Double-A Eastern League affiliate of the Colorado Rockies, will be holding National Anthem Auditions at Dunkin' Donuts Park, 1214 Main St., Hartford) on Saturday, February 15 at 9:00 AM. Singers of all ages are welcome to audition for the opportunity to sing the National Anthem at a Yard Goat game. There are a limited number of tryout slots available and it is required that singers register in advance on the website, [www.yard-goatsbaseball.com](http://www.yard-goatsbaseball.com). The Yard Goats open the 2020 season on April 9th (7:10 PM) against the Red Sox affiliate.

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## ActUp Stands Up!

On Saturday, February 8, ActUp Theater presented two performances of its original musical-drama, *Stand*, in honor of Black History Month. The Broadway style show examines a wide variety of issues facing today's youth, including peer pressure, bullying, parental expectations, social media, cultural identity and mental health. Shown above in the show's finale are (front, left to right) Bronna Walker, Nia Austin, Lamaree Wilson Robinson, Di'Anna Moye; (rear) Francisco Diaz and Henley Solomon. ActUp Theater utilizes youth and adult actors drawn from Hartford and the surrounding towns. (Hart photo)

## Hartford...Once Upon a Time



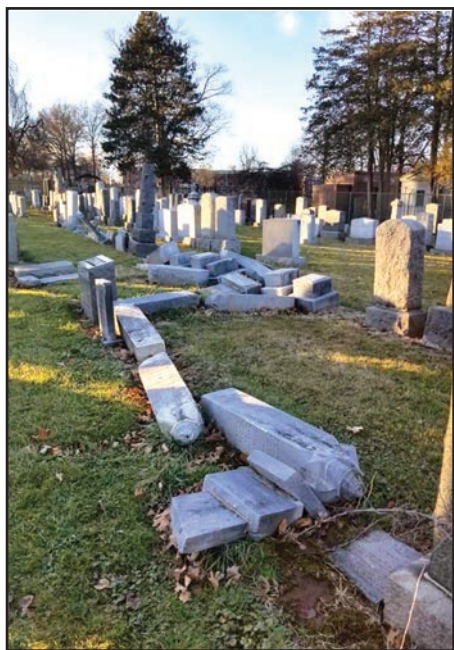
This rather dull picture tells an interesting tale. The main building is, of course, now home to the Arch Street Tavern. It is one of the very few buildings left from Hartford's Old East Side, which was largely demolished to make way for Constitution Plaza and other "urban renewal" projects. Located just down the street from Hartford City Hall and within walking distance of the State Capitol, "The Arch" has been a favorite hang-out for politicians since it first opened in 1978. The building itself was completed in 1895 and was originally home to the Hartford Carriage Factory. The company, which manufactured horse-drawn buggies and carriages, closed down 20 years later, primarily due to the rise of the automobile. Later the building was home to a firehouse and truck body repair shop. (Photo courtesy of the Arch Street Tavern)

## DISTURBING THE PEACE

### Vandalism & desecration in Frog Hollow Jewish cemeteries

BY ANNE GOSHDIKIAN

The wrought iron gate at the entrance to the Beth Israel Jewish cemetery at the corner of Ward and Affleck Streets bears a shiny new lock on a heavy steel chain. Despite its presence, that security measure hasn't deterred those who are intent on breaking into the burying ground from gaining access and wreaking destruction on monuments dating back to the 19th century; it's the third replacement lock and chain in the past few years.



A walk through Beth Israel and the adjacent Adas Israel and Dreyfus Lodge cemeteries reveals domino-like rows of gravestones knocked off their bases to the ground, some of those markers even broken into pieces. Others are tumbled together in helter-skelter piles. Inscriptions reveal that some of those buried were veterans of the Civil War. Holocaust survivors likely also rest there. A large granite crypt memorializing Adas Israel Rabbi Tzemach Hoffenberg stands with a yawning space in its walls from a recent break-in. Five stately mausoleums, including those of the Auerbach and Wise families, scions of Hartford's golden age of retailing stand

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## Cemetery Vandalism

Continued from page 1

nearby. One of the five shows signs on the doors' glass panels of attempted break-ins – crazed crackling and what appears to be a bullet hole. The grounds are dotted with trash, bottles, discarded clothing, and on one toppled stone sit a pair of worn-out abandoned shoes. And in the grass there are hundreds of needles, syringes, and cotton swabs, evidence of the sacred ground's use as a drug shooting gallery.

The city-owned Zion Hill cemetery is under the oversight of the Department of Public Works parks division, but encompasses the other three, which are privately maintained by the Association of Jewish Cemeteries, along with about two dozen more Jewish cemeteries in Hartford, most of them along a long swath of Tower Avenue and Garden Street in the North End. Leonard Holtz, the former president of Congregation Ados Israel, a downtown syna-



tions at the internal entrance gates to the Jewish plots, but has received little interest or concern regarding providing more vigilance and upkeep at those entrances. At the corner stands an old boarded-up caretaker's house that's been empty for many years. The doors and windows there show signs of replacement wood, as the trespassers have broken in repeatedly. City preservationists want to keep and renovate that historic building, but its only use now is as a convenient location offering privacy for drug use and prostitution. Some years ago, a woman was found naked and murdered up against a fence there. Recently, thieves broke into a store, stole an ATM, gutted it and took the money, and then dumped the carcass at the cemetery.

In what adds a note of irony, the Zion Hill Jewish cemeteries sit directly across the street from the HPD's Frog Hollow substation, home base for the police cruisers that patrol what has long been recognized as a high crime area. Holtz said that during the summer months, those cemeteries see even more illegal activity than usual, as the re-growth of the winter-dormant vines that cover the fencing separating the plots serves as a green curtain that masks some of the view into what goes on there. Vandalism at city cemeteries is nothing new. HPD arrested three teens eight years ago for desecrating a Jewish cemetery. Last year, a grave broken into in a North End cemetery was discovered with the casket and its remains removed, leaving evidence of them being used in a religious ritual. The current rash of repeat desecrations has received little attention from the police and the city administration, and consequently has gone unnoticed by the general public. In the past three days, however, posts and photos of the destruction at Zion Hill on area social media sites have spurred a huge reaction

from area residents. Hundreds of people have reacted and commented, and the posts have been shared more than 120 times in less than 48 hours among a wide variety of groups and organizations, including Jewish web pages like "Remember the Holocaust". Latino residents have shared the posts translated into Spanish. The reactions and comments are universal across racial and religious lines: all express shock, dismay, and anger. Some have offered to volunteer for cleanup duty. Others look for solutions and demand action from the city. Should the substation have cameras trained on the cemeteries, or motion sensor lights installed on the grounds? Could area residents be persuaded to "snitch"—to report knowledge of who is committing these crimes to the police? The Jewish cemetery associations have the unenviable task of trying to find and contact the descendants of the dead whose stones have been virtually destroyed, often difficult as many of them no longer live in the Hartford area or even in the state. Repair of the markers that can actually be salvaged is a costly and difficult process.

Lisa Vaeth, the Director of the Association of Jewish Cemeteries of Greater Hartford, was quoted in a Jewish Ledger article about a cemetery hate crime that occurred some years back: "It is important to recognize that this disgraceful incident is far more serious than simple property damage. This is both complete desecration and disrespect to those buried in this sacred ground, and to their families who continue to mourn their loss." Those are words that must resonate with anyone who has buried a loved one. With all the public attention currently being paid to this issue, will the city now step forward and formulate a plan of action to curb these crimes and apprehend those who commit them?



gogue that closed in 1986, Executive Director of the Hebrew Funeral Association, and now a caretaker at the cemeteries said he doesn't believe that the desecration is necessarily evidence of a hate crime (although Zion Hill has been the site of that label in the past), but rather reflective of "wilding" by young people high on drugs and/or alcohol to whom the criminal activity is a senseless but perversely satisfying means of expression. Holtz said "People should understand that many acts of vandalism have been repaired only to occur again to many of the same monuments in the hot spots". He's contacted DPW management about the conditions at Zion Hill, which has experienced vandalism for many years, but on a much smaller scale, about condi-



# Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

## Magic of the Yard Goats

Yes, we remember the nay-sayers and anti-everything crowd. Yes, we remember the controversy over what a Yard Goat exactly was. And, yes, the development of the area surrounding the stadium that was supposed to pay the bills has been slow in coming.

However, aside from a few hardcore complainers, who can downplay the magic that this baseball team and its stadium has brought to Hartford?

What makes this magic? Is it the mix of baseball, fireworks and other activities? Is it the chance to see and chat with old friends while watching the game? Is it the variety of special promotional nights, such as Irish Night on August 8, and all the free tickets for kids? Probably a combination of all that and more. And when you add in the ease and modest cost of parking, it's clear that yes, we've built a winner. We say "we" because it's not just the players on the field or the staff selling hot dogs and taking tickets, but the enthusiastic fans coming from throughout the region that makes the atmosphere so attractive.

So, if you haven't been to a game or other event at the stadium, this season is your chance to stop by

what many consider to be the best minor league ballpark in the nation.

Here are a few tips.

Come early so you can get a good parking spot, find your seats, walk around the facility, watch batting practice, get your soda, beer, hot dog and other goodies, settle in and enjoy the game. By the second inning, the lines for food lengthen and waiting cuts into your time spent watching the game.

You'll also probably like to walk around and look at the historic photos that are hung throughout the stadium. It'll be a great local history lesson for you and any kids or friends you've brought along.

Keep your eye out for old friends. Yard Goat games are truly a region-wide draw, and you might run into a high school classmate who moved to Avon, or an old neighbor who moved to Manchester, or a former co-worker who's moved to Suffield.

So, is everything perfect? Well, not quite. Sometimes the lines for food and drink are just too long. Late-comers might have a long walk to and from their parking place. But the crowds are a sign of success. So, follow our advice, buy tickets in advance, come early and enjoy the game!

# In My Opinion

## CVH Whiting Task Force: Co-Chair Mike Lawlor Engages in Obstruction

BY DAVID SAMUELS

*Connecticut Valley Hospital Whiting Forensic task force co-chair Mike Lawlor denied Whiting whistleblower Caroline Howard's request to tell her story in front of the task force, during one of the upcoming meetings at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. I scheduled a meeting with Senator Heather Somers to discuss Lawlor's obstructionist behavior. CVH Whiting employees experiencing racism and workplace bullying can email Sen. Somers at heatherssomers@gmail.com. You can remain anonymous. See our email exchange with Lawlor below. Start reading from the bottom. Stay tuned.*

**From John Hollis**

I agree with David. It is absurd to silence the rank and file/front line employees who work directly with the patients at CVH/Whiting. This is a grave disservice to the patients, as well as, the rank and file employees, by the Task Force that was established to gather information to hopefully reform this scandal plagued institution. Obviously, gathering information from front line/rank and file employees would be a critical source of information,

imperative to positive reform.

**From Kimberly Phillips:**

I agree with you David. They know exactly what they are doing and play the game well. We will continue to press on, like you said and document their refusal to work with us. Reprehensible!!!

**David**

Agreed. I didn't ask for the co-chair's email address. At the first meeting he cheerfully offered me and others his business card. Clearly he didn't anticipate this level of engagement. Well it's happening and will continue, if only to document his refusal to cooperate with us.

**From: Kimberly Phillips**

What's disturbing is the blatant and obvious disregard of the data by the task force, co chairs and many more. It's clearly evident that independent oversight is beyond overdue.

**David**

Despite the mountain of data we've given him, the task force co-chair is

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## THE HARTFORD NEWS

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# Earn-a-Bike

BY DONNA SWARR

BiCiCo will be offering its next Earn-a-Bike course. Starting on Tuesday, February 18th, all youth who complete the 8-week program will get a bicycle they tuned up themselves, bike lights, a lock, and a bike helmet. Those ages 13-19 are eligible to participate in the BiCiCo Earn-a-Bike program. All ages including parents and siblings are invited to attend the first class on February 18th for more information. If your child is younger than 13 or older than 19, please give us a call to discuss the circumstances before registering.

BiCiCo is a program and community bike shop run by the charitable non-profit, Center for Latino Progress. BiCi Co started in the summer of 2015 when the center realized that the city was without a single bike shop. The first “prototype” Earn-a-Bike course was in the fall of 2015 and the initial sponsor in 2016 was the Latino Endowment Fund. Since they started in the fall of 2015, they have run two Earn-a-Bike cohorts each year, in the spring and again in the fall. This year, they have added an additional after school Earn-a-Bike program at the Kinsella elementary school, combined with life skills and tutoring.

Earn-a-Bike is a great hands-on learning experience for youth and teens that excel outside of the typical classroom environment. Learning bicycle mechanics is a great entry point for those who may be interested in skilled trades, engineering, and the physical sciences. At the end of the program, participants have a bicycle for healthy, independent trans-

portation along with safe cycling skills and basic mechanical skills to upkeep their own bike. Over 30% of Hartford households don’t have a car, so a bicycle and the skills to fix it are important for community mobility in our city.

The Earn-a-Bike course will enroll from 8 to 15 participants. There is a \$20 fee, which is very, very low considering the overall cost of the program staff, tools, bikes, parts, etc. At the end of the program, each participant keeps the bicycle they picked out and fully overhauled, along with bike lights, a lock, and bike helmet. Those that really love bike mechanics or customer service may be asked to join BiCiCo as a mechanic trainee or staff as part of the Center for Latino Progress’s internship programs.



The Earn-a-Bike classes run for eight weeks each session on Tuesday and Thursday nights at 95/97 Park Street. Some classes are upstairs on the 2nd floor in the classrooms, but most of the meetings are hands-on in the BiCi Co. bike shop with expert mechanics and other adult mentors. The first course begins Tuesday, February 18th, 5:30 pm, at 95 Park Street. Those who complete the course will also receive a BiCiCo youth membership and participate in the April BIKELIFE Festival on Saturday, April 19th.

Comments or questions? Contact BiCiCo at [bicico@ctprf.org](mailto:bicico@ctprf.org). To register, go to [www.tinyurl.com/2020EAB](http://www.tinyurl.com/2020EAB), or call 860-269-0004 to register by phone.

# An Answer to Whose Job is it to Clean Up

COMMENTARY BY BILL KATZ

Denise Best said it well. So has Donna Swarr. Here is my spin.

A few years ago, I wrote a plan on points about how to take back our city. There are many things we can do for ourselves and our communities. The city can no longer afford the staff to adequately address these conditions. We can all pick up trash when we see it. We can mow our neighbor’s curbside green if it becomes overgrown. We can even push our lawn mowers across the street and cut the overgrown grass at a round-about instead of waiting for DPW insufficient work crews that we can no longer afford. Just do it and stop waiting for it to get done.

I had written a plan that included a suggestion to teach school kids to pick up sanitized liter in the school yard and later in the classroom, discuss how cool it is to pick up trash instead of doing what their parents do, toss it out the window. That would be called reverse teaching; having the child who was taught to pick up litter at school then return home and admonish their parents about picking up litter.

Simple things like painting off ugly graffiti on MDC boxes. I proposed a plan to Billy DeBella and he sent me to the director to reiterate the plan. But then I was informed that MDC had recently purchased a miracle paint that graffiti would wash away after a rain. The stuff cost \$750 a gallon and it need-

ed to be field tested. That was a few years ago. Can you believe how anyone would buy a gallon of paint for \$750 a gallon? I can’t. Suffice to say, the boxes are all marked up and nothing was ever done. I’m sure that if either of these two gentlemen had graffiti marked MDC boxes in their neighborhoods, the boxes would be cleaned.

I took my various plans to take back our city and improve our streetscapes. I decided to present this to every NRZ in Hartford. My first stop was the West End NRZ. The president gave me all of 30 seconds to explain how we all could save Hartford. I spoke quickly and at the 30th second, she stopped me. As I walked out of the church basement that evening scratching my head, I realized the futility of expressing these ideas. I gave up. I gave up after expressing the educational concept to a representative of the Board of Education and nothing was considered. I gave up after expressing this to elected officials.

It’s too bad that everyone is so infused with their own ideas or lack thereof any ideas to not be able to think outside the box. Now, after a few years have past of having painted the MDC boxes in my neighborhood, I will be out in the spring to at least help beautify my immediate neighborhood by repainting them again. It’s too bad no one else in position of authority wants to join in.

# Baby Grand Jazz Series Continues Sunday with Emilio Solla



The Baby Grand Jazz Series at Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford, will continue this Sunday, February 16, with a free performance by Emilio Solla Tributango on piano joined by Javier Sanchez on bandoneon and Pablo Aslan on bass.

With a career that spans 35 years now, Grammy nominated, Argentina born and New York based pianist and composer Emilio Solla has released ten albums as a leader and more than forty as producer/arranger. He is recognized by peers and press as one of the most outstanding and personal creators worldwide in the Tango-Jazz genre, a blend of Argentine tango and other Latin American rhythms with the freedom and improvisation of jazz music. He has performed all around Europe, Japan, the US and Latin America to outstanding reviews in many of the most important jazz houses and Festivals.

Baby Grand Jazz Concerts will be held every Sunday through April 26

(except for Easter Sunday, April 19th), from 3 – 4 pm (doors open at 2 pm).

## 2020 Baby Grand Jazz SCHEDULE

Feb. 16	Emilio Solla Tributango
Feb. 23	Nathan Davis Sextet
March 1	Ron Smith Quintet
March 8	The Afro-Semitic Experience
March 15	Iris Ornig Quintet
March 22	Haneef N. Nelson Quintet
March 29	Ricky Alfonso Group
April 5	Envisage Collective
April 12	Easter (No concert)
April 19	The Joe Carter Samba Rio Quarteto
April 26	TAEKO

# Sharing the Love: You make me smile with my heart

COMMENTARY BY ANNE GOSHDIKIAN

No politics this week, readers. No complaints, no scolding, no calls to action. Instead, please accept this valentine to all of you who faithfully—or even occasionally—read the *Hartford News*. Whether you read it on our Facebook page, pick up a copy at your regular “spot” every week, or idly browse through it at the Laundromat or while waiting for an oil change, it’s all about you. I do it for you, as does everyone else at our 43-years-still-going-strong free community newspaper that covers the entire city of Hartford: Jon, Andy, Mike,



Josephine, Freddy, David, Robert, Donna, and Tom.

Many of you have noticed and commented positively that we’ve upped our game in the past year or

so, and we appreciate that so much. We still feature Andy Hart’s amazing photography of people and places around the city; notices of events, celebrations, and meetings, and wrap-ups of the same; and continue offer the best ad rates in town. But now we’re also about bringing you news that you won’t always find anywhere else. In-depth stories and interviews about Hartford people, citizen concerns, our parks and environment, some satirical make you LOL moments, and plenty of commentary on a wide variety of

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## Sorority To Provide Free Mammograms To Uninsured And Underserved Women March 6 at Convention Center

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) is bringing its fight against breast cancer to uninsured and underserved women in Hartford, CT. The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Mobile Mammography Unit will be available to provide free screenings on Friday, March 6 from 8 am – 5 pm at the Connecticut Convention Center, 100 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT. The unit will also be available for screenings on Saturday, March 7 at the Wilson Gray YMCA Youth and Family Center, 444 Albany Ave., Hartford, CT from 8 am – 5 pm. Individuals who are uninsured and interested in getting a mammogram should register first at [www.assuredimaging.com/AKA](http://www.assuredimaging.com/AKA) or call 888-233-6121.

“The fight against breast cancer is an important one for Alpha Kappa Alpha, our Region, our membership and the communities that we serve. We are proud that our chapters across the Region have worked to raise additional funds to help underwrite the cost of mammography screenings for uninsured and underserved women when we gather in Hartford for our 89th North Atlantic Regional Conference. We have already touched thousands of women over the past year who might otherwise not have access to this important, potentially life-saving test,” said Mary Bentley LaMar, Alpha Kappa Alpha's North Atlantic Regional Director, responsible for managing local AKA chapters and members in the organization's North Atlantic Region encompassing Massa-

chusetts, Eastern New York, Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Connecticut, Maryland, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and the District of Columbia.

The breast cancer screening service project is one of several activities taking place during the sorority's 89th North Atlantic Regional Conference in Hartford. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority has become a formidable opponent in the fight against breast cancer with their mobile unit, and by providing valuable information on prevention along with giving women access to important mammogram services.

“The key focus of Alpha Kappa Alpha's breast cancer initiative is to provide women access to early detection and education when it comes to the disease,” said Dr. Tonja J. Ringgold, Program Chairman for AKA's North Atlantic Region. “Our overall mission is to help reduce the factors that lead to breast cancer in African American women by having them visit our AKA Mammography Mobile Unit.”

AKA is committed to reach 100,000 women by 2022. Chapters will also partner with local clinics, rural health centers, and hospitals to emphasize the need for African-American women to receive regular mammograms.

“As women of service, we are committed to standing together to cohesively take the initiative to fight against breast cancer,” added Robyn Jones, M.D., the service organization's Regional Chairman for Health and Wellness.



## City Honors Former Mayor Carrie Perry



On Wednesday, February 5, the City of Hartford held a Memorial Service at the Artists Collective on Albany Avenue for former Hartford Mayor and State Representative Carrie Saxon Perry, who passed away in 2018. Hartford's state legislative delegation, including State Representatives Edwin Vargas, Douglas McCrory and Matt Ritter (above), read out a proclamation honoring Perry. Vargas, who served as Perry's campaign manager, who wore a hat in memory of the former mayor, who was known for her flamboyant headwear, as did many others who attended the service. Another former Perry campaign worker, State Treasurer Shawn Wooden, praised Perry's dedication to fighting the “powers that be” on behalf of those marginalized by society. (Hart photos)

## Hartford Firefighter Receives Prestigious Accreditation

On February 4th, the Commission on Professional Credentialing confirmed the awarding of the “Fire Officer” (FO) and “Chief Emergency

Medical Services Officer” (CEMSO) credentials for Hartford Fire Department Lieutenant Valentin Rodriguez, who is assigned to the Training Division.

Lt. Rodriguez serves as Hartford Fire Department's emergency medical services (EMS) coordinator. Internationally, there are roughly 510 credentialed FO Designees and 149 credentialed CEMSO's.

According to the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Inc. website, the credentialing process is a career enhancement and development model that recognizes professional accomplishments and technical competence of fire and emergency service officers.

This accomplishment makes Lt. Rodriguez the 4th fire and emergency services professional in the state to obtain the FO designation and the 4th to obtain the CEMSO designation. Currently, there are only 16 credentialed fire officers in the State of Connecticut.

Fire Chief Reginald Freeman



Lieutenant Valentin Rodriguez

stated, “all of us at the Hartford Fire Department celebrate Lt. Rodriguez and this exceptional accomplishment. He is a consummate professional and the Commission on Professional Credentialing confirmed what we already knew which is that LT Rodriguez is one of the best in our industry and we are fortunate to have him as a team member.”



## Community Renewal Team (CRT) is hosting a company-wide Job Fair.

**When? Tuesday, February 25 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Where? 555 Windsor Street in Hartford**

### Great career opportunities!

Bring your resume – on-the-spot interviews for qualified applicants!

Bilingual is a plus! Sign-on bonuses for some positions!

Visit the Careers section of [www.crtct.org](http://www.crtct.org) for complete details.



**Community Renewal Team**  
Changing lives... Creating opportunity!

## Discussion on Hartford Riots Feb. 19

The Albany Avenue Branch of the Hartford Public Library, 1250 Albany Avenue, Hartford, will host a discussion entitled “The Hartford Riots: A Conversation Between Generations,” on Wednesday, February 19, from 5:30-7:30pm. The discussion will center on what was going on in Hartford in the areas of education, urban renewal, and police/com-

munity relations during the period of riots between 1967-1969. Teens from Hartford's North End will engage a select group of elders in sharing their perspectives.

This program will be accompanied by the Hartford '67 / Detroit '67 exhibit produced by Hartford Stage in collaboration with the Hartford History Center at Hartford Public Library.



## Holy Trinity Honors Sister Mary Louise with New Library



On Sunday, February 2, Holy Trinity Church on Capitol Avenue dedicated its new Sister Mary Louise Rouleau Memorial Library. Parishioners donated almost 600 books for children and adults to the library. These include several books in Lithuanian, as Holy Trinity was originally founded to primarily serve Hartford's Lithuanian community. Sister Mary Louise worked with the poor and disenfranchised throughout her career, and then spent her "retirement" assisting Father Charles Jacobs, pastor of Holy Trinity. She passed away in 2018. Among the first users of the new library was Wills Driscoll, shown above with his mother Amanda. Holy Trinity is one of the few churches to allow cats, dogs and other pets to attend services (below). (Hart photos)



### The Future of Journalism Starts Here: Connecticut Health I-Team's Summer Multimedia Journalism Workshop



The Conn. Health I-Team is offering full tuition scholarships for Hartford students at our Summer Multimedia Journalism Workshop, July 6-10 at the University of Connecticut.

Students will learn from working journalists, hone their communication skills, spend a week on the UConn campus, and much more!

*For information or to sign up, go to [c-hit.org](http://c-hit.org).*

## Apply Now for Honorary Artist Positions

Due to the highly favorable reaction to its appointment of Hartford's first Poet Laureate, Frederick-Douglass Knowles last year, the Hartford Commission on Cultural Affairs has introduced five more honorary positions to highlight the creative work of Hartford residents. Knowles has made several appearances to promote the arts in Hartford.

The appointments are open to any Hartford resident working in a wide variety of media, including writing, the visual arts, journalism, composition, publication, performance and more.

Appointees will be required to participate in local events, installations and celebration during their three-year compensated

tenure.

Appointments are available in the following areas:

### Troubador

An ambassador of music and song fostering public appreciation, participation and also publishing songs about the city.

### Storyteller

A teller of narratives of the past present and future, sharing stories of people, politics, the arts and all things that shape Hartford.

### Commentator

This person will emphasize social and political commentary in the community and inspire

thoughtful reflection on social and cultural affairs.

### Earth Artist

This person will encourage contact with the natural world and awareness of life on our planet, enhancing the health and well-being of the city.

### Flow Artist

This person will represent human expression through movement, such as dance, highlighting the importance of physical arts as a means of social bonding and cultural pride.

The deadline to apply is March 1. To apply or for more information, go to [hartfordarts.com](http://hartfordarts.com).

## Sharing the Love

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topics. We welcome your input, opinions, and letters to the editor. Some new features are on the drawing board for 2020; stay tuned.

Several times, I've been approached by strangers who recognize my name or face (!) who tell me always look forward to the HN every week, or that they love my writing (!!). Last week, a woman approached me at a local store, introduced herself, and said she agrees with 92% of what I write. Trust me—this is always unexpected, maybe a little embarrassing, slightly scary (will I get a pie in the face?) but incredibly gratifying. Donna and Tom, our faithful contributing writers, also experience this. So does Mike. What else can we do now but work hard to stay in your good graces and continue to hold your interest? You inspire us.

*With love and gratitude,  
Your funny valentine*



### New Fencing at Colt Park

New wooden fencing around Colt Park's youth soccer field was installed last week along Masseek and Huyshope Ave. The fencing is designed to prevent cars using the field as a parking area as well as protecting the children playing on the field. (Swarr photo)

### CAPITOL REGION

All bid notices for the Capitol Region Purchasing Council are available at <https://crcog.bonfirehub.com/>. CRCOG is also requesting proposals for services for Crumbling Foundations. If you have any questions, please contact the office of the CRPC 860-724-4292, or e-mail [crpcstaff@crcog.org](mailto:crpcstaff@crcog.org). The towns reserve the right to reject any or all bids, or any part of any or all bids, if such action is deemed to be in the best interest of the towns.

### REGION DEL CAPITULO

Todos los avisos de licitación para el Consejo de Compras de la Región del Capitolio están disponibles en <https://crcog.bonfirehub.com/>. CRCOG también está solicitando propuestas de servicios para Crumbling Foundations. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese con la oficina del CRPC 860-724-4292 o envíe un correo electrónico a [crpcstaff@crcog.org](mailto:crpcstaff@crcog.org). Las ciudades se reservan el derecho de rechazar cualquiera o todas las ofertas, o cualquier parte de cualquiera o todas las ofertas, si se considera que dicha acción es en el mejor interés de las ciudades.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Joshua C. Thermansen (20-00077)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated February 10, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claims.

Carmen Y. Zayas, Esq.,  
Assistant Clerk

The Fiduciary is:  
Ann K. Thermansen  
194 N. Jefferson Road  
South Burlington, VT 05403

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF John Anthony D'Onofrio (20-00122)

The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated February 11, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claims.

Carmen Y. Zayas, Esq.,  
Assistant Clerk

The Fiduciary is:  
Lisa A. Eastman  
473 Forest Street  
East Hartford, CT 06118



News Briefs

Continued from page 1

ate, the Portland Sea Dogs. Yard Goats season tickets are available by calling 860-246-GOAT (4628), or in person by visiting the Click It or Ticket Box Office at Dunkin’ Donuts Park.

Know Thy Neighbor Clay Arsenal Meets Feb 18

Know Thy Neighbor Clay Arsenal will meet Tuesday, February 18, at 6:00pm at the Management and Community Room at Mary Shepard Place, 15 Pavilion Street. Know Thy Neighbor brings together neighborhood residents, police officers, fire fighters, and AMR staff from Clay Arsenal and vicinity to talk about community concerns and work together to take action. For more info: ktnclayarsenal@gmail.com or 860-201-6510. Refreshments will be available at 5:45pm. Free parking in the lot outside the building.

Urban League Black History Month Celebration

The Urban League of Greater Hartford will hold its annual Black History Celebration on Thursday, February 20, at the Mark Twain House and Museum, 351 Farmington Avenue, Hartford. The theme of the event will be “A Legacy Revealed: Beyond The Movement.” There will be an Interactive Exhibit from 6 - 7 pm and a Legacy Showcase from 7 - 8:40 pm. Admission is free. To

register online, go to ulghLegacyRevealed2020.eventbrite.com.

KNOX Urban Greenhouse Party February 21

KNOX, Inc. will hold its annual “75° An Urban Greenhouse Party” on Friday, February 21 from 7 to 11 PM in the KNOX Greenhouse, 75 Laurel Street, Hartford. The event will include beer, wine and appetizers plus other surprises. Music will be provided by DJ Hakim Zarif. There will also be a silent auction with live plants. Tickets are \$45 (unless purchased before Feb. 1) or \$50 at the door. To purchase, go to: www.knoxhartford.org. Proceeds will benefit KNOX’s efforts to improve the quality of life for Hartford residents through community gardens, neighborhood clean-ups, tree plantings and other environmental initiatives.

Yard Goats Job Fair Set for Saturday, February 22

The Hartford Yard Goats will be holding its annual job fair at Dunkin’ Donuts Park, 1214 Main Street, Hartford, on Saturday, February 22 from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. The Yard Goats are seeking applicants to fill a wide range of game day positions and looking for upbeat, fan-friendly individuals to help make the fourth season in Hartford another huge success. Dunkin’ Donuts Park attracted over one-million

fans over its first three seasons in Hartford. Last season, the Yard Goats drew a franchise record 414,946 fans, including 51 sell-outs, and led the entire Eastern League in total attendance for the second straight year. Personnel from both the Yard Goats and their food and beverage provider, Professional Sports Catering, will be on hand to speak with and receive applications from all job-seekers. Combined, the two organizations will staff an average of 300 positions each year that include: ushers, ticket takers, box office personnel, merchandising, housekeeping, grounds crew, concessions, kitchen personnel, and catering.

CRT Job Fair February 25

The Community Renewal Team (CRT) will host a job fair on Tuesday, February 25, from 11 am - 6 pm at the CRT Main Office, 555 Windsor Street, Hartford. On-the-spot interviews will be available to qualified applicants. Please bring your resume. For more information, please call 860-560-5665.

City Treasurer to Speak at WECA Meeting Feb. 25

The West End Civic Association (WECA) will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 25, from 6-8 pm at Hartford Seminary, 77 Sherman Street, Hartford. City Treasurer Adam Cloud will discuss the city’s financial situation and respond to questions from the audience. In addition, there will be a presentation by West Hartford Childrens’ Museum, Janice Castle will discuss the Love your Block Grant Program and Sandy Fry will discuss the Farmington Avenue upgrade. The meeting is free and open to the public.

“Health Cafe” at Library February 27

The Connecticut Convergence Institute and the Hartford Region YWCA will present their next “Health Cafe” on Thursday, February 27, from 6 - 8 pm in the

Kitchen Cafe at Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street, Hartford. Glenn Konopaske, MD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at UCONN Health Center will discuss “Beyond The Winter Blues: Seasonal Affective Disorder.” There will be a free dinner and give-aways for all attendees. The event is free but space is limited. To RSVP, please go to https://health.uconn.edu/connecticut-convergence-institute.

HEZBA Luncheon February 28

The Hartford Enterprise Zone Business Association (HEZBA) will hold its annual Luncheon and Awards Presentation on Friday, February 28, from 12 - 2 pm at Uptown Vibz, 3155 Main Street, Hartford. To reserve your ticket, call 860-897-5171. This event is sponsored by HEZBA and the Inquiring News.

Saint Casimir Fair March 1 at Holy Trinity Church

Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, 53 Capitol Avenue, Downtown Hartford, will host its annual Saint Casimir Fair on Sunday, March 1, from 10 am -2 pm in the church hall. There will be Lithuanian handicrafts and food for sale, as well as amber jewelry and other items. A Lithuanian-style lunch will also be available for sale as well as pastries. Admission is free, the public is welcome. Saint Casimir was a Lithuanian prince known for his devotion to God and his generosity to the sick and the poor. He died in 1484 at the young age of 25. He was buried in the Cathedral of Vilnius, Lithuania and officially made a saint in 1602. The fair is organized by the Lithuanian-American Girls and Boys Scouts. Proceeds will go to the scouts and the Holy Trinity Parish.

Democratic National Delegate Workshop March 5

The Connecticut Democratic Party will hold a Democratic National Committee (DNC) Delegate Workshop on Thursday, March 5, from 5:30 PM – 7 pm at

Connecticut Democratic Party Headquarters, 30 Arbor Street, Suite 106A, Hartford. The purpose of the meeting is to walk interested Democrats through the process of becoming a 2020 DNC delegate to this summer’s Democratic Convention in Milwaukee. Please RSVP to https://ctdems.org/events.

Register Now for Student-Police Dialogue Program

Registration is now open for Charter Oak Cultural Center’s nationally-recognized “Good Vibrations,” a free community dialogue and music program for Hartford Middle School students and the Hartford Police Department. Kids will share their concerns about their community, city life and policing with the officers and then jointly learn to express themselves creatively through rap, poetry, visual art and guitar. The program is directed by Khaiim the RaPoet a.k.a. Self Suffice, Orice Jenkins and Susan Mazer. Dinner is provided! The program will run for 12 weeks (February 20 through May 7) on Thursdays from 5pm to 7:30pm at Grace Lutheran Church, 46 Woodland Street, Hartford. Students in grades 5 through 8 (ages 11 to 15) are eligible but must pre-register. To sign up, go to: www.facebook.com/events/625570194682435.

Auditions Open for Footlights Performing Arts School

Footlights Performing Arts and Education at the Downtown Hartford YMCA, 90 State House Square, is now holding auditions for upcoming classes. Footlights offers instruction in dance, theater, singing, African drumming, martial arts, and visual arts and stage prop design along with tutoring, field trips, college credits and more. Auditions are open to children ages 10-17. To schedule your audition, please call 860-539-3984 or email to footlightsinfo@gymca.org



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In My Opinion

Continued from page 2

behaving as if I’m the problem. This is deeply disturbing.

*David*  
CVH/Whiting management has used their time in front of the task force to make de facto infomercials. The public should hear both sides of the story. The task force should want to hear both sides.

*From Janet F. Conaci*  
David is correct.

*David Samuels*  
*CVH Employee*  
Gathering information can include talking to employees like Caroline, who are being targeted for speaking out. The task force has allowed CVH Whiting management to give

extensive presentations during task force meetings. These meetings are live streamed on the Connecticut Network. The presentations included Whiting CEO Hal Smith’s slanted presentation on how great things are for Whiting employees now. The public should hear rank and file employees’ side of the story. There hasn’t been a request for the task force to take any kind of action, other than to hear Caroline’s story.

*From Mike Lawlor*  
Caroline:  
I am very sorry to hear that. The Task Force does not have any specific authority to take any action other than gather information and report back to the General Assembly in January. However, there are state laws that protect whistleblowers. If you have not already done so, you

might want to contact the state auditors’ office and/or the office of the attorney general.

*From: Caroline Howard*  
*Sent: Saturday, February 1, 2020 11:18 AM*  
To: Lawlor, Michael  
Subject: WFH Retaliation and Abuse  
Hi Mike, I received your email from David Samuels. I disclosed workplace abuse, retaliation, etc., to the panel of the task force at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford where (DMHAS commissioner) Miriam Delphin-Rittmon was present in 2019. I informed the panel that sharing this information would put me at greater risk. On May 10, 2019, I got a letter from Labor Relations that termination of state service was recommended.







# El Informativo Latino

## El Gobernador Lamont Propone Invertir \$55 Millones en XL Center



El gobernador Ned Lamont solicitó un paquete de bonos que incluirá \$ 55 millones de dólares para renovaciones en el XL Center. El alcalde Luke Bronin está feliz de ver que finalmente se asigna dinero a la arena, pero dice que hay un largo camino por recorrer. Es una instalación. Es obsoleta. Está envejeciendo rápidamente. Se está desmoronando.

Necesitamos movernos rápidamente para hacer las inversiones que creo que son necesarias para modernizarla", dijo el alcalde Bronin. El alcalde Bronin cree que las renovaciones en la arena pueden ser un importante motor económico para el estado y la región. Los propietarios de la arena, Capital Region Development, dicen que tomaría \$

250 millones de dólares para hacer una renovación completa de la arena. Con la competencia proveniente de arenas cercanas y nuevos casinos, algo tenía que hacerse. Bronin considera que esta asignación es una pieza del rompecabezas, pero dice que deberán encontrar otras formas de unir los fondos.

Al final del día, espero que nuestros legisladores y ambos partidos y personas de todo el estado reconozcan que tenemos dos opciones", dijo el alcalde Bronin. "O tienes un trozo de acero y hormigón oxidado y vacío en el centro de tu ciudad capital o tienes un lugar competitivo fuerte que atrae cosas como el torneo de la NCAA que trajo tanta actividad la primavera pasada no solo a la ciudad sino a la región. El alcalde Bronin dice que los cambios en la arena llegarán lo más rápido posible. En este momento dice que la arena está viviendo con tiempo prestado. By: Iris Rodriguez



## Have A Heart for Puerto Rico

On Friday, February 7, La Casona Restaurant on Wethersfield Avenue in Hartford hosted a "Have a Heart for Puerto Rico" night. Proceeds from the event will be donated to victims of the recent earthquakes in Puerto Rico through the Connecticut Hispanic Federation. The band Mario Pueblo y Los Sabrosos de la Salsa provided music for the band. The band's horn section (below) included long-time Hartford favorite Ray Gonzalez (right) and upcoming trombone player Al Maldonado. (Hart photos)



## Southington Native and Former Major Leaguer to Manage Yard Goats in 2020

The Hartford Yard Goats recently announced that Chris Denorfia has been named manager for the 2020 season.

In addition, Pitching Coach Frank Gonzales will join the team as Pitching Coach and Tom Sutaris will be the Yard Goats new Hitting Coach.

Denorfia, who grew up in Southington, was with the Chicago Cubs last season on Joe Maddon's staff, and played 10 years in the Major Leagues.

Gonzales was the Supervisor of Development for the High-A Lancaster JetHawks in 2019.

Tom Sutaris served as Hitting Coach for the JetHawks in the California League last season.

Hoshito Mizutani returns for his third season as the Yard Goats trainer and Mason Rook will join the club for his first season as Physical Performance Coach.

Denorfia played 10 years in the Major Leagues with Cincinnati (2005-06), Oakland (2008-09), San Diego (2010-14), Seattle (2014) and the Cubs (2015). The former outfielder finished his playing career in the Rockies system at Triple-A Albuquerque in 2017. Denorfia graduated from Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford before playing at Wheaton College (Norton, MA), where he was a NCAA Division III All-American, and drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in the 19th round in 2002.

Gonzales will begin his eighth season in the Rockies organization and his first as the Yard Goats

Pitching Coach. He spent the past two seasons as Supervisor of Development with High-A Lancaster in the California League. He previously served as manager at Rookie-level Grand Junction in 2016 and 2017, and managed Short-Season Boise in 2015. He spent his first two seasons in the Rockies organization as the pitching coach for Short-Season Tri-City. Gonzales was drafted by the Detroit Tigers in the 16th round in 1989 out of

Colorado State University and pitched nine seasons in the Tigers, Pirates and Red Sox chains while reaching the Triple-A level.

Sutaris will begin his third season in the Rockies organization and his first as the Yard Goats Hitting Coach in 2020. He was the Hitting Coach at High-A Lancaster in the California League during the past two seasons. Sutaris was the assistant coach at the University of Incarnate Word in 2017 after serving as the special assistant for the University of Texas baseball team from 2014-2017. He played professionally in the Frontier League from 1993 through 1996 for the Ohio Valley Redcoats. The Toms River, NJ native graduated from Lynn University in 1993.

The Yard Goats open the 2020 season on April 9th (7:10 PM) against the Red Sox affiliate, the Portland Sea Dogs. Yard Goats season tickets are available by calling 860-246-GOAT (4628), or in person by visiting the Click It or Ticket Box Office at Dunkin' Donuts Park.



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